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Question Time: Are you ready for wearable computers?

Would you strap one on your body?

By Rob Burgess

Tribune night editor

In September 2014, Apple CEO Tim Cook announced the Apple Watch.

“Apple Watch represents a new chapter in the relationship people have with technology,” reads the official website. “It’s the most personal product we’ve ever made, because it’s the first one designed to be worn.”

The Apple Watch will begin shipping next month, starting at \$349. So, we wanted to know: “Would you ever strap a wearable computer, like the Apple Watch, to your body? Why or why not?”

Yes

“Yes, I got the Fitbit and love it. So if you want to give me one that would be great!” — **Anita Gillespie**

“Almost everyone has one in their pocket. What's the difference besides a smaller screen and the fact you look like a Power Ranger while talking into your communicator?” — **Daniel Vang**

“Only if I'm a Mighty Morphin Power Ranger.” — **Scot Sink**

“Yes.” — **Kristina Eller Occhino**

No

“No because I'll get it wet or dirty, or bang it against my desk and break it somehow.” — **Megan Marschand Pierceall**

“No.” — **Keith Spurgeon**

“No.” — **Anna Long**

“Probably not. Stopped wearing a watch a couple years ago, everything I need is on my phone.” — **Ausperk Kenny**

Our answers

“NO! I think it will be harder on your vision, and people will still use them while driving and that will take not only your hands but also your eyes away from the road.” — **Arlene Long**

“I have a hard enough time putting my phone down to go to sleep at night, so if I had a watch strapped to my wrist with the same capabilities as a phone, I may never actually close my eyes. So, it's not for me.” — **Josh Sigler**

“Just when we've finally gotten away from wearing watches, here comes Apple Watch. Just strap it to your wrist and never unplug from your devices again. Obsessed with fitness? Apple Watch will make sure you never stop thinking about how long you've been sitting there. Can't stand using natural cues to figure out the time? Apple Watch is accurate to 50 milliseconds. Can't get enough of your friend's Facebook baby picture posts? Apple Watch will make sure your arm rattles the next time your friend posts a picture of their offspring. I think technology has robbed me of my ability to think. Not process information so much as have independent, reasoned ideas on the scale

that would deliver you to innovation or ultimate truth. To sit in a quiet place and absorb the sound of two leaves gently sliding across one another, watch the pattern left by a raindrop as it hits the window, trace the scent of a newly opened flower with just your nose: these are things I can remember being able to do before I had a smartphone. Now, I can hardly sit through a half-hour television program without absentmindedly reaching for my phone. Did I miss a text? Did someone retweet my tweet? So, no. I do not see myself investing in this latest and greatest invention, or anything else that I know will further distract me. For me, it's growing increasingly important to live in the here and now.” — **Jill Bond**

“Yikes. No way. Call me a Luddite if you'd like, but I draw the line at wearing computers. Next thing you know they're going to be drilling it into people's foreheads. I'm more likely to go back to a flip phone than get an Apple Watch.” — **Rob Burgess**

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